

the plurality of cards includes a plurality of paired primary and secondary cards;  
and

wherein the relay/switch redirects signals between a redundant primary card and a secondary card associated with a failed primary card.

33. (New) A telecommunications system, comprising:

a housing;

a backplane, disposed within the housing, and adapted to receive a plurality of electronic modules, each electronic module associated with inputs and outputs for providing services to a plurality of subscribers;

wherein the housing is adapted to receive an adaptation module to selectively, communicatively couple to the plurality of electronic modules in the housing; and

wherein when the adaptation module is received on the housing, one of the electronic modules is designated as a back-up electronic module, and wherein the adaptation module selectively routes signals between the back-up electronic module and the inputs and outputs associated with a primary electronic module upon failure of the primary electronic module.

34. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the adaptation module comprises a relay/switch.

35. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the plurality of electronic modules is associated with a second plurality of electronic modules to provide the inputs and outputs for the plurality of electronic modules.

36. (New) A method for providing redundancy in a telecommunication system, the method comprising:

providing a housing having a plurality of electronic modules operating in a non-redundant configuration;

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

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attaching a redundancy module to the housing to selectively communicate with the plurality of electronic modules; and

designating one of the electronic modules as a redundant electronic module to back-up the remaining electronic modules in a redundant configuration.

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amended*

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein attaching a redundancy module comprises attaching a module including a relay/switch exterior to a backplane of the housing.

38. (New) A telecommunications system, comprising:  
a housing;  
a backplane, disposed within the housing, and adapted to receive a plurality of cards for providing services to a plurality of subscribers; and  
wherein the housing is adapted to receive a self-contained module to plug into the housing to add N+1 redundancy to the telecommunications system.

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